

Message Text

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15

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SP-02 AID-05 EB-07 NSC-05 RSC-01

CIEP-02 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01 COME-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 PA-02

PRS-01 USIA-15 AGR-10 /096 W
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R 072320Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9296

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

UNCLAS SAN JOSE 0553

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR CS

SUBJECT: PUBLIC REACTION TO POSTPONEMENT OF BA-MFM

REF: STATE 21494

SAN JOSE 0441

SAN JOSE 0443

SAN JOSE 0465

SAN JOSE 0452

1. ASIDE FROM STRAIGHT NEWS REPORTING, THE COSTA RICAN PRESS HAS REACTED VERY MIDLY TO THE POSTPONEMENT OF THE BA-MFM. ALL NEWSPAPERS REPORTED THE POSTPONEMENT AND CARRIED SOME INTERNATIONAL WIRE SERVICE ANALYSES OF POSTPONEMENT'S IMPACT. THERE WERE ONLY TWO RELEVANT EDITORIALS.

2. "LA HORA"--PLN-BACKED DAILY--PUBLISHED AN EDITORIAL ON JANUARY 29 PRAISING THE LATIN COUNTRIES FOR FINALLY "PUTTING UNCLASSIFIED

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THEIR PANTS ON." AFTER REHEARSING THE HISTORY OF U.S. DOMINATION

OF LATIN AMERICA, THE EDITORIAL CLAIMED THAT THE OAS 20-0 VOTE AGAINST THE U.S. AND THE SUBSEQUENT CANCELLATION OF THE BA MEETING SHOW THAT "THE RULES OF THE GAME" HAVE COMPLETELY CHANGED. IT CALLED FOR U.S. ACCEPTANCE OF THIS CHANGE SO AS NOT TO ENDANGER CONTINENTAL RELATIONS, SINCE NO ONE WOULD BENEFIT FROM THEIR FAILURE.

3. ON JANUARY 31, "EXCELSIOR"--ALSO PLN--COMMENTED ON THE BA CANCELLATION WITHIN AN EDITORIAL WHICH DISCUSSED THE STATEMENTS OF SENATOR JOHN SPARKMAN ON NONINTERFERENCE IN LATIN AMERICAN AFFAIRS. IT PRAISED THE WISDOM OF SPARKMAN'S STATEMENTS AND ADDED THAT WHILE THE BA MEETING WOULD HAVE BEEN "IMPRUDENT" IN THE CURRENT CONTEXT, PERHAPS "THE NEW WINDS THAT ARE BLOWING" WILL MAKE POSSIBLE ANOTHER SUCH MEETING "IN THE NEAR FUTURE."

4. OTHER PRESS REACTION TO THE CANCELLATION OF THE BA MEETING CENTERED ON THE POSITIVE IMPLICATIONS OF THE VISIT OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY ROGERS. THIS REACTION HAS BEEN REPORTED IN SAN JOSE REFTELS.
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Message Attributes

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To: STATE
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